

**Mid Shore Regional Council
Minutes, Dorchester County
May 11, 2005**

The Mid Shore Regional Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on May 11, 2005 at the Holiday Inn Express in Cambridge. The following members were in attendance: Russell Dize, Charles Cawley, Father LaBarge, Delegate Eckardt, Ellery Adams, Hilary Spence, Hope Harrington, Delegate Haddaway, Jerome Stanley, Marty Gangemi, Mayor Rippons, Mindie Burgoyne, Dr. Flowers, Kevin Morse and Terry Deighan. Also in attendance were Betty Causey, Steve McHenry, JOK Walsh, Lee Kirwan, Jim Youngquist and two representatives of the League of Women Voters.

Call to order:

Chairman Marty Gangemi called the meeting to order at 5:30 after which those present stated their names and affiliations. Chairman Gangemi announced the Executive Board had met prior to this meeting in Executive Session.

Approval of Minutes:

On a motion by Charles Cawley that was seconded by Hope Harrington the minutes of February 11, 2005 were approved unanimously.

Treasurers report:

On a motion by Mayor Rippons that was seconded by Dr. Flowers the treasurer's report that was presented by Mayor Rippons was approved by unanimous consent.

Executive Director Contract

Executive Director Kevin Morse's contract has come up for renewal his current contract is set to expire July 1, 2005. Ms. Spence announced there had been a meeting of the Evaluation Committee prior to this meeting and they approved a 2 year contract for Mr. Morse under the same conditions as the prior contract. Dr. Flowers informed the Board members that Mr. Morse's contract evaluation was excellent. Ms. Spence made a motion to award a two year contract to Mr. Morse, Father LaBarge seconded the motion and it was passed by unanimous consent. It was also determined that Executive Assistant Terry A. Deighan would receive a 4% pay increase in the next fiscal year with a bonus of \$3,750.00 if she remains in employ with the council through June 2006. Her base salary next year would be \$37,695.60 before any pay increase assessment.

FY06 Budget

Chairperson Gangemi announced to the Board that DBED had expressed an interest sharing the Mid Shore Regional Council's executive assistant Terry A. Deighan. They have proposed utilizing Ms. Deighan's time for approximately 16 hours per week. Several members voiced their disapproval of this request stating the time request too much. While the board stated their gratitude for DBED's support and partnership. They could not in agree with this request due to the work load expected in the next fiscal year. Ms. Burgoyne of DBED asked if the Board if is open to further discussion on the

arrangement and the board replied, "No."

Member-at-Large request

Ms. Spence announced that Ms. Paige Bethke of Easton would be added to the Board list as a Member-at-Large and pointed out to the Board it is in the rights of the Executive Board to do so as outlined in the BY-LAWS. (Copy attached as part of these minutes)

Strategic Planning Session

Results of Organizational Assessment

Mr. Jim Youngquist presented his findings from 30+ interviews with board members, staff and MSRC partners. A summary of the results were presented in a power point presentation. The graying population, pressure from residential development, workforce issues, the need for regional planning, and regional economic development were the main areas of interest and agreement expressed by MSRC members. Mr. Youngquist's final report that contains all of the responses and recommendations is attached.

Ms. Spence requested that the council expand its goals based upon Mr. Youngquist's findings and asked that this be included on the September 14th quarterly meeting agenda.

Other matters

Mr. Cawley feels the growth issue goes hand in hand with transportation, both which are concerns of the Board and should be addressed at the September meeting.

Mr. Morse requested the board's approval to have Dr. Scott present an example of a growth impact assessment and a cost estimate for the mid shore region at the September 14 meeting. The board unanimously approved the request.

Dr. Scott informed the board that he is working with Mr. Cawley on such a project now for Caroline County and would be happy to share any findings with the Board at our next meeting.

Future meeting dates

Mr. Gangemi announced the following meeting dates for up coming meetings:

September 14, 2005 in Talbot County

December 14, 2005 in Caroline County

February 8, 2006 in Dorchester County

May 3, 2006 in Talbot County

MSRC Meeting at MACO

Mr. Morse announced that the MACO Conference will be held August 17-19 in Ocean City and the Executive Board will be meeting at least once during this time.

Member comments/requests

Mr. Gangemi thanked the representatives of the Women Voter's League for attending and told them he would put them on the regular list of announcements participants for all up coming meetings.

Delegate Eckardt suggested that the members of the MSRC board from each county should accompany the Executive Director and brief town and county officials on current projects, accomplishments and future work plans. She stressed it is important to request their input and county to build relationships with leaders throughout the region..

Adjourn

By unanimous consent of the Board Mr. Gangemi adjourned the meeting at 8:30PM.